

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present preliminary amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in more proper format under United States practice.

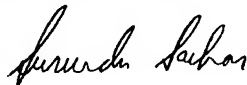
By the present preliminary amendment Claims 1-28 are canceled and new Claims 39-56 are presented for examination. New Claims 29-56 are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, including canceled Claims 1-28, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter. No differences between new Claims 29-56 and canceled Claims 1-28 are believed to narrow the scope of new Claims 29-56.

A new Abstract believed to be in more proper format under United States practice is also submitted herein.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier  
Registration No. 25,599  
Attorney of Record  
Surinder Sachar  
Registration No. 34,423



**22850**

(703) 413-3000 X 6211  
Fax #: (703) 413-2220  
GJM:SNS/smi

I:\atty\SNS\217798US-pr.wpd

20030914-010902

217798US

**Marked-Up Copy**

Serial No:

Amendment Filed on:

1-9-2002

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-28 (Canceled).

Claims 29-56 (New).

IN THE ABSTRACT

(New).

20050704 015001